



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
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## APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production** during April 2008 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was up 19 percent from April 2007 and up 6 percent from March 2008 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 681,000 pounds live weight, up 29 percent from April 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,146 pounds, was up 72 pounds from a year ago.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter totaled** 151,000 pounds live weight, up 12 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 600 head, up 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 262 pounds, was down 4 pounds from the previous year.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 4.30 billion pounds in April, up 14 percent from the 3.75 billion pounds produced in April 2007.

**Beef production**, at 2.25 billion pounds, was 12 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 10 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from the previous year, at 1,259 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 11.9 million pounds, 1 percent above April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 73,300 head, up 29 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was down 70 pounds from last year, at 278 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 2.02 billion pounds, up 18 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.99 million head, up 18 percent from April 2007. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 15.3 million pounds, was up 2 percent from April 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 221,400 head, 2 percent above last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago.

**January to April 2008 commercial red meat production** was 16.8 billion pounds, up 8 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 5 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 13 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

**April 2007** contained 21 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

**April 2008** contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.